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P 061934Z MAR 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SEDU, PFOR, OEXC

SUBJECT: REPORTED KREIBICH-LOWENTHAL CONFLICT

REFERENCE: USBERLIN 431

- 1. DEPT APPRECIATES PROMPT RESPONSE TO INQUIRY CONTAINED REFTEL.
- 2. TO PERMIT MORE COMPLETE ASSESSMENT BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL MISSION ALSO SEEK TO OBTAIN, IF POSSIBLE WITHOUT PUBLICITY, LOEWENTHAL VIEWS REPORTED CONFLICT. FURTHERMORE, REQUEST MISSION/EMBASSY ANALYSIS CURRENT SITUATION FREE UNIVERSITY PARTICULARLY AS IT RELATES TO FREEDOM OF NON-MARXISTS TO TEACH AT UNIVERSITY AND ROLE WHICH KREIBICH MAY HAVE PLAYED IN SUPPRESSING NON-MARXIST VIEWS. (INFLUENTIAL AMERICAN PUBLISHER HAS CALLED DEPT'S ATTENTION TO KREIBICH'S SUIT AGAINST VON SIMSON LAST YEAR WHICH REPORTEDLY INVOLVED VON SIMSON'S ALLEGATION THAT ONLY MARXISTS CAN BE APPOINTED TO FU.) LAST REPORT IN OUR POSSESSION IS A-133, MAY 29.

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3. MISSION AND EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT PUBLIC

KNOWLEDGE OF PROJECTED I.V. VISIT BY KREIBICH HAS GENERATED

CONSIDERABLE COMMENT AND ATTENTION IN AMERICAN ACADEMIC COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY AMONG THOSE WHO FEEL PRO-MARXIST TRENDS AT FU REPRESENT UNFORTUNATE TREND. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY HAS REQUESTED THAT WE SET ASIDE TIME PERIOD (IN EITHER NEW YORK OR SAN FRANCISCO, OR BOTH) FOR AMERICAN ACADEMICS TO MEET WITH KREIBICH TO DISCUSS ISSUES. WE HAVE NOT YET AGREED TO INCLUDE SUCH SESSION BUT ARE INCLINED TO DO SO. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY/MISSION VIEWS THIS ITEM ALSO.

4. KREIBICH VISIT IS BEGINNING TO ACQUIRE SOME ELEMENTS OF DIFFICULTY WHICH COULD NEGATE PURPOSE OF VISIT ITSELF. SOME AMERICAN ACADEMICS WITH WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT VISIT ITSELF WILL HAVE VALUE; THAT THERE ARE ELEMENTS AT FU WHO REPRESENT FACTIONS CONSIDERABLY MORE LEFTIST THAN KREIBICH; AND THAT THEIR DESIRE IS NOT TO DENEGRATE KREIBICH BUT TO TRY TO MAKE HIM AWARE OF ATTITUDES AMERICAN ACADEMIC COMMUNITY. INGERSOLL

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